

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 249735  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 DHA-05 CA-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02  
SS-15 L-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 VO-03  
/074 R

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D/HA:MSCHNEIDER  
ARA:GLISTER  
ARA:FJMCNEIL  
SCA:JDEWITT

-----104715 190813Z /20  
P 181727Z OCT 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

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CORRECTED COPY (PARA 4 LINE 8 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, CI

SUBJECT: ACTION PLAN FOR RELEASE OF CHILEAN POLITICAL  
PRISONERS

REF: SANTIAGO 8176

1. WE ARE VERY PLEASED BY THE THOROUGHNESS WITH WHICH YOU  
HAVE DEVELOPED THIS PROPOSAL, AND ENCOURAGED BY YOUR  
PROPERLY CAUTIOUS ESTIMATE OF THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS.  
BEFORE MOVING AHEAD WITH THE PROPOSAL, WE WOULD APPRECIATE  
YOUR RESPONSE TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

2. NUMBERS: YOUR ESTIMATE OF APPROXIMATELY 170 PERSONS IS  
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PAGE 02 STATE 249735

LOWER THAN WE HAD EXPECTED, AND THUS IN ITSELF ENCOURAGING.  
ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE PREMATURE, CAN YOU GIVE US AN ESTIMATE  
(TO WHICH WE WILL NOT HOLD YOU), BASED UPON INFORMATION  
FROM ICEM AND EXPERIENCE WITH OUR PAROLE PROGRAMS, OF HOW  
MANY AMONG THE 170 WOULD IF RELEASED WISH TO COME TO THE  
U.S.? COULD WE ACCOMMODATE THE APPLICANTS IN THE REMAINING  
"ARGENTINE 200" QUOTA OR WOULD WE BE FACED WITH THE NEED

TO FIND OTHER ROUTES? ARE WE LIKELY TO BE CONFRONTED WITH ANY WHO WOULD ASK FOR ADMISSION TO THE U.S. WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN UNACCEPTABLE OR UNDESIRABLE UNDER OUR STANDARDS (I.E. SCHNAKE)?

3. THE PLAN: WE WOULD PREFER TO WORK WITH AND BEHIND ICEM, GIVING ICEM PUBLIC CREDIT FOR ANY SUCCESS. THE PROPOSED "BARGAIN" BETWEEN ICEM AND THE GOC HAS CLEAR ATTRACTIONS FOR BOTH. THE CITING OF THE RELEASE OF PRISONERS AS AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHER GOVERNMENTS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT. IF "EVEN PINOCHET" IS WILLING TO TAKE SUCH A STEP, WE WILL HAVE A USEFUL LEVER TO APPLY TO OTHER LA GOVERNMENTS WHO DO NOT WISH TO APPEAR MORE REPRESSIVE THAN THE CHILEANS.

4. APPROACHES HERE TO AMBASSADORS CAUAS AND DIAZ, AND IN SANTIAGO TO PINOCHET, APPEAR TO BE APPROPRIATE MEANS OF BRINGING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GOC OUR SUPPORT FOR THE ICEM PROPOSAL. WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO TELL THE GOC THAT THE USG WOULD GIVE PUBLIC RECOGNITION TO THE STEP EITHER BY A STATEMENT WORKED INTO DEPT PRESS BRIEFING OR INTO A SPEECH OR OTHER PRESENTATION OF A RANKING DEPT OFFICIAL. WE WOULD MAKE A GENUINE EFFORT TO SEE THAT IT WAS NOTICED. A MORE FORMAL STATEMENT, SUCH AS A PRESS RELEASE OR PUBLIC MESSAGE TO THE GOC, WOULD PRESENT GREAT DIFFICULTIES FOR US AND CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 249735

WOULD IN ANY EVENT TEND TO NEGATE THE EFFORT TO PRESENT THE STEP AS SOMETHING WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE GOC AND ICEM. WE COULD ALSO UNDERTAKE TO ENSURE THAT THE STEP WOULD BE APPROPRIATELY NOTED IN ANY RESOLUTION ON CHILE EMERGING FROM THE UNGA OR OTHER UN OR OAS BODY. WE WOULD PRESENT THE RELEASES AS BOTH A NATURAL FOLLOW-ON TO THE PRESIDENTIAL MEETING AND TO THE SERIES OF SIMILAR STEPS FOR WHICH WE HAVE GIVEN CREDIT TO CHILE IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS.

5. SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD GOC ACCEPT: WE RECOGNIZE THAT OTHER CASES BEYOND THE APPROXIMATELY 170 MIGHT APPEAR IN THE FUTURE. ASSUMING, BASED ON OUR EXPERIENCE, THAT A RELATIVELY LIMITED NUMBER WOULD IN THE FINAL EVENT PREFER ADMISSION TO THE U.S. OVER REMAINING IN CHILE IF POSSIBLE OR GOING TO ANOTHER COUNTRY, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO ADMIT MORE EXILES UNDER SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS, SUCH AS THE HEMISPHERIC PAROLE AUTHORIZATION WHICH IS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

6. CHANCES FOR SUCCESS: WE RECOGNIZE THE PROBLEMS WHICH THE GOC WILL HAVE WITH THE PROPOSAL, AND THE FACT THAT

SUCCESS IS BY NO MEANS GUARANTEED. EVEN IF THE PLAN FAILS, WE WANT THE GOC TO FEEL OUR CONTINUED PRESSURE FOR ELIMINATION OF BLATANT ABUSES AND FOR STEADY PROGRESS TOWARD RESTORATION OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND THEIR LEGAL GUARANTEES.

7. TACTICS: WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GIVE ASSURANCES OF TANGIBLE REWARDS AT THIS STAGE AND IF SUCH IMMEDIATE REWARDS ARE THE QUID EXPECTED, WE MUST RATE THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS AS LOW. WE UNDERSTAND GOC FRUSTRATION OVER WHAT APPEARS TO IT TO BE INADEQUATE INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF THE STEPS IT HAS ALREADY TAKEN TO IMPROVE ITS HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES, BUT THE GOC IN ITS TURN MUST UNDERSTAND THAT A RECORD OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE BUILT UP  
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PAGE 04 STATE 249735

OVER FOUR YEARS CANNOT EASILY BE EXPUNGED. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE249735  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA/AND:RSSTEVEN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 SANTIAGO 8176  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ACTION PLAN FOR RELEASE OF CHILEAN POLITICAL PRISONERS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, SREF, CI  
**To:** SANTIAGO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a102a62c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009